

REMARKS

The present amendment is in response to the Office Action dated March 14, 2003. Claims 1-17 are now present in this case. New claims 2-17 have been added.

Applicants filed a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement on March 7, 2002 disclosing a total of 24 references. A copy of the PTO-1449 form is enclosed herewith. The applicants kindly request the Examiner make these references of record in the case.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,091,430 to Bodin et al. The applicants respectfully disagree with the assessment of Bodin et al. and its applicability to the claimed invention.

Bodin discloses a technique for simultaneous display of multiple disk operating system (DOS) programs. The technique disclosed by Bodin designates a portion of the system memory for use as a logical video buffer to allow the DOS system to present two (or more) applications on the video screen. (See Figure 3 and column 4, lines 26-65.) DOS detects an attempt to access the video buffer for the background operation using a page fault handler. (See column 4, lines 46-65.)

The Office Action essentially copies the language of claim 1 and states that Bodin discloses a method for preventing an unauthorized display source from overriding an image displayed by an authorized data source "under control of code that is independent of a native operating system." The Office Action further cites column 2, lines 40-45 showing a "DOS application" as disclosing the code operating independently of the native operating system. It should be noted that the techniques disclosed in Bodin utilize the functionality of DOS, which is the native operating system. As noted in the Office Action, column 2, lines 40-45 discuss DOS applications. The page fault handler utilizes DOS functionality. Accordingly, Bodin does not disclose any technique that operates under control of code that is independent of a native operating system.

In sharp contrast to Bodin, claim 1 of the present application is directed to a method for preventing an unauthorized display source from overriding an image displayed by an authorized display source and recited, *inter alia*, “under control of code that is independent of a native operating system, generating a display region mask that defines a display area of the video display system.” Claim 1 further recites “associating the generated display region mask with the authorized display source. Bodin does not teach suggest any display region mask nor does Bodin suggest any association of a mask with an authorized display source. Accordingly, claim 1 is clearly allowable over Bodin.

Claims 2-17 are also allowable over Bodin. Claim 2 is a method claim reciting, *inter alia* “generating a display region mask that defines the display area of the video display system” as well as “associating the generated display region mask with the second application.” The method of claim 2 further recites “receiving data for the first application from a graphics device interface associated with a native operating system” and “modifying a portion of the received data intended for the display area defined by the display region mask to prevent the data from the first application from being displayed in the display area defined by the display region mask.” Finally, claim 2 recites “transferring the data, including the modified portion, to a display driver associated with the video display system.” As illustrated in Figure 32 of the application, and discussed on pages 34-36, the masking software receives data from the graphics device interface (GDI), modifies the data intended for the region defined by the display region mask, and transfers the data, including the modified portion, to the display driver. Thus, the method of claim 2 functions at the interface layer between the GDI and the display driver. Those skilled in the art will recognize that operation at this level in a computer eliminates the dependence on a specific operating system, thus making operation more easily implemented across operating system platforms.

Bodin does not teach or suggest such operation. Bodin performs at the operating system level (see Figures 3-4) and utilizes the DOS function calls and simply stores video data for a foreground operation in the conventional video memory while video data for a background operation is stored in a logical video buffer that resides in

the computer memory. Bodin does not teach or suggest a display mask, associating a display mask with the second application, receiving data for the first application from a GDI, modifying a portion of the received data intended for the display are defined by the mask or transferring the data, including the modified portion, to a display driver. Accordingly, claim 2 is clearly allowable over Bodin. Claims 3-7 are also allowable in view of the fact that they depend from claim 2, and further in view of the recitation in each of those claims.

Claim 8 is a system claim and recites *inter alia* "a programming interface to provide a routine to create a display region mask that defines a masked display area of the video display system and to associate the generated display region mask with the second application." Claim 8 further recites "a display filter to intercept function calls from a graphics device interface associated with the native operating system and when the display filter detects that an intercepted function call from the first application is specifying transmission of data to the masked display area, clip a portion of the received data intended for the masked display area to prevent the data from the first application from being displayed in the masked display area." As noted above with respect to claim 2, Bodin discloses an implementation at the operating system level and relies on operating system functionality. Furthermore, Bodin does not teach or suggest any display mask. Finally, Bodin does not teach or suggest a display filter that intercepts function calls from a GDI nor a process that clips a portion of the received data intended for the masked display area to prevent the data from the first application from being displayed in the masked display area. Accordingly, claim 8 is clearly allowable over Bodin et al. Claims 9-11 are also allowable in view of the fact that they depend from claim 7, and further in view of the recitation in each of those claims.

Claim 12 is a computer readable media claim and is allowable for the reasons discussed above with respect to other claims. Specifically, Bodin does not teach or suggest a computer readable media containing instructions that cause a computer processor to generate "a display region mask that defines a display area" or a system for "associating the generated display region masked with the second application." Furthermore, Bodin does not teach or suggest a computer readable media

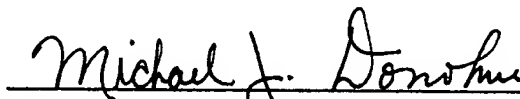
receiving data for the first application from a graphics device interface associated with the native operating system and "clipping a portion of the received data intended for the display area defined by the display region mask to prevent the data from the first application from being displayed in the display area defined by the display region mask." As noted above, Bodin relies on the operating system functionality to detect calls to the portion of the video memory reserved for the background operation. Bodin does not generate a display mask or receive data from a GDI. Further, Bodin does not clip a portion of the received data intended for the display area defined by the mask, as recited in claim 12. Accordingly, claim 12 is clearly allowable over Bodin. Claims 13-17 are also allowable in view of the fact that they depend from claim 12, and further in view of the recitation in each of those claims.

It is now believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the subject application and its allowance are kindly requested. If questions remain regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (206) 628-7640.

Respectfully submitted,

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